

REMARKS

In accordance with the above amendments, claims 1, 17, 18, 19, 35 and 36 have been amended and claims 16 and 34 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-15, 17-19, 21-33 and 35-36 remain under consideration in the present application and no claim has been allowed.

It is noted that all the claims remain rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haefner et al (U.S. 5,690,683). This rejection is again respectfully traversed. While applicants agree that the Haefner et al reference appears generally similar in certain respects, they remain convinced that advantages exist in the present claims that are not recognized nor taught by Haefner et al and which would not occur to those skilled in the art absent the present specification.

The attenuation circuit of the present invention features serially connected capacitors in a system that is connected to the pacing circuit. Applicants believe that there are fundamental structural and functional differences that the references fail to teach which make their system patentably distinct. They remain convinced that one skilled in the art would not be led, based on the references of record, to create the presently claimed system absent an inventive step.

Entry of the present amendment and reconsideration of the rejections in view of the current amendments and remarks,

together with those already of record is respectfully requested
by the applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.116 in response to the Final Official Action mailed September 14, 2004, in application Serial No. 09/206,329, filed on December 8, 1998, of Geng Zhang et al, entitled "AUTOCAPTURE PACING/SENSING CONFIGURATION", and a transmittal letter are being sent by facsimile transmission to: The Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 15, 2004.



Barbara L. Davis
On behalf of C. G. Mersereau

Date of Signature: November 15, 2004

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